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Q37

Consider the following statements: 1. Biofilms can form on medical implants within human tissues. 2. Biofilms can form on food and food processing surfaces. 3. Biofilms can exhibit antibiotic resistance. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2022 · General Studies · 2 marks · Current Affairs and GK
Current events, government schemes, miscellaneous GK - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

1 and 2 only. Antibiotic tolerance/resistance of biofilms is also true.

(b)

2 and 3 only. Implants grow biofilms too.

(c)

1 and 3 only. Food-contact surfaces are a standard **biofilm** site.

(d) Official key

All three. Implants, food plant surfaces, and hard-to-treat **biofilm** resistance.

Summary

Official key is (d) all three. Biofilms colonise implants and food-processing surfaces and are markedly less susceptible to antibiotics than planktonic cells.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Biofilm

Attached microbial community in an extracellular matrix.

EPS

Extracellular polymeric substance - the slime.